



PARCC Accessibility Features

PARCC has adopted most accommodations that we permit on DC CAS, as detailed in the table below. However, PARCC makes a distinction between accessibility features available for use by all students, and accommodations that will be available only to students with disabilities and English Language Learners. The table below provides a comparison of the accommodations available on the DC CAS, and the accessibility features available for all students on the PARCC assessments.

PARCC Accessibility Feature	DC CAS Accommodation	DC CAS Policy	Policy for PARCC Computer-based Assessments
Answer Masking	Markers to maintain place	All place markers must be blank so as not to provide clues or information to the student. Rulers are not acceptable. However, blank index cards, adhesive notes, cardboard strips, templates and similar blank items are allowed to mask content. Materials must be in the testing environment prior to start of testing and ready for student usage.	The student electronically “covers” answer options, as needed.
Audio Amplification	Amplification equipment	Be sure the equipment is in the testing environment prior to the start of the test, that the outlets work/ and or spare batteries are available. Depending on the device used, this may require the use of headphones or testing in a separate location so as not to distract other students.	The student raises or lowers the volume control, as needed, using headphones. Student must be tested in a separate setting if unable to wear headphones.
Background/Font Color (Color Contrast)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student changes the onscreen background and/or font color based on need or preference.*
Blank Paper (provided by test administrator)	Provided to All Students	Must be collected and shipped with the non-scorable materials.	The student may be provided blank sheet(s) of paper on which to plan or organize item responses.
Eliminate Answer Choice	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student “crosses out” possible answer choices (for multiple choice items only).



Flag Items for Review	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student highlights items to review later.
General Administration Directions Clarified (by test administrator)	Simplification of oral directions	Allowable for English Language Learners with ELP Levels 1-4 And students with disabilities.	The test administrator clarifies general administration instructions only. No part of the test may be clarified, nor may any assistance be provided to the student during testing.
General Administration Directions Read Aloud and Repeated as Needed (by test administrator)	Repetition of Directions	Allowable for all students	The student clicks a button to read aloud or repeat instructions. Student must be tested in a separate setting, if unable to wear headphones.
General Masking	Markers to maintain place	All place markers must be blank so as not to provide clues or information to the student. Rulers are not acceptable. However, blank index cards, adhesive notes, cardboard strips, templates and similar blank items are allowed to mask content. Materials must be in the testing environment prior to start of testing and ready for student usage.	The student creates a custom “mask” to electronically cover portions of test items, including passages, as needed.
Highlighted Tool	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student highlights text as needed to recall and/or emphasize.
Headphones or Noise Buffers	Noise buffer	A noise buffer may be used by students during testing. The examiner needs to know if the noise buffer blocks all sound or reduces sound. For oral directions, the student may need to remove the buffer and resume use when the examiner has finished giving instructions. The examiner will need to be sure to get the student’s attention prior to providing oral instructions to the class.	The student uses headphones or noise buffers to minimize distraction, access embedded text-to-speech, or filter external noise during testing (in addition to required headphone for use on English Language Arts/literacy assessment).
Line Reader Tool	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The students uses onscreen tool to assist in reading by raising and lowering the tool for each line of text onscreen.



Magnification/ Enlargement Device	Magnification devices	<p>Make sure equipment is in the testing environment, that the necessary outlets are working, that spare batteries are available as necessary or that the disc with the information is available for the computer.</p> <p>Using magnification devices may slow down the process of testing, extended time will frequently be required.</p>	The student enlarges text and graphics onscreen, up to 400% (while preserving clarity, contrast, and color).
NotePad	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student writes and edits notes using embedded NotePad application.
Pop-up Glossary	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student is able to view definitions of pre-selected, construct-irrelevant words by selecting a hyperlink onscreen via a pop-up text box.
Redirect Student to the Test (by test administrator)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The test administrator redirects the student's attention to the test without coaching or assisting the student in any way.
Spell Checker	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student uses spell-check software.
Text-To Speech for the Mathematics Assessments	Oral Reading of test questions (Math, Science, Health, or Composition only)	<p>This accommodation is limited to the content areas of Math, Science, Health, and Composition. Test content must be read verbatim, no simplification, paraphrasing or adjusting of vocabulary is allowed. The test examiner must be very cautious when reading aloud and use even inflection so the student does not receive any clues by the way the information is read. Readers need to be familiar with the content and the symbols specific to the content. The screen reader device must be familiar to the student and the student must be able to use the device. Materials for the screen reader must be prepared prior to the testing session. Code on the Student Accommodation sheet under Presentation Accommodations as Reading of Test</p>	Text is read aloud to the student using embedded text-to-speech software. Student must be tested in a separate setting if unable to wear headphones.



		Questions (Math, Science or Composition only)	
Writing Tools	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	The student uses writing process tools for written responses, including cut and paste, copy, underline, bold, and insert bullets.

**Color Contrast options are listed on page 22 of the PARCC Accessibility Features and Accommodations Manual.*

Administrative Considerations for All Students

Principals may determine that any student may require one or more of the following test administration considerations, regardless of the student's status as a student with a disability or who is an English Learner:

- Small group testing
- Frequent breaks
- Time of day
- Separate or alternate location
- Specified area or seating
- Adaptive and specialized equipment or furniture

Detailed guidelines on the administration of the PARCC assessments will be included in the PARCC Test Administration Manual.